

ART. XIX.—*Contributions to the Flora of Australia,*
*No. 15.*¹

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(With Plates XXII-XXIV.).

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ATRIPLEX PTEROCARPA, Ewart and Rees, n. sp.
(Chenopodiaceae)

Near Silverton, New South Wales. E. N. Charsley, 1886.

Apparently a shrub, the stem and leaves bearing short, woolly hairs, which give the plant a whitish appearance. Leaves ovate to lanceolate, ovate leaves with fairly long petioles, and lanceolate leaves narrowed at the base with short petioles—entire or with margins slightly indented.

Flowers unisexual in globular axillary clusters 2-4 lines in diameter. The upper clusters consist of male flowers surrounded by a few female, the lower clusters of female only. Female flowers—perianth in 2 segments, with irregularly serrated edges, and closely covered on the outside with short woolly hairs, on the inner side of the segments is a peculiar outgrowth of finely branched greenish veins. Styles 2 united at extreme base—Male flowers—perianth in 4 segments, 4 stamens opposite to the segments of the perianth. Fruiting perianth compressed, entirely closed except at apex, ovate orbicular, about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch across, margin entire. Valves thin at the edges, but

1 No. 14 in Proc. Roy. Soc. Victoria, vol. xxiii., pt. i., n.s. (1910), p. 54.

slightly roughened and thickened towards the centre and closely set with much branched veins which are specially conspicuous on the inner side of the valves. Radicle lateral.

BABIANA STRICTA, Ker-Gawl (B. VILLOSA, Ker-Gawl).

(Irideae). "Upright Babiana."

Germantown, near Geelong, Victoria, H. B. Williamson, Nov., 1909.

A native of South Africa, apparently not sufficiently established to be considered naturalised. The plant has the perianth tube shorter than usual, the flowers being apparently not quite fully developed.

GASTROLOBIUM LAYTONI, J. White, n. sp., after Captain Layton.
(Leguminosae).

Watheroo Rabbit fence, Max Koch, 1905, No. 1337.

An erect shrub of 1.5 to 2.5 feet high. Branches stiff, when young covered with short greyish hairs, the older branches only slightly so. Leaves petiolate, laminae 1.5-2 inches in length, and $\frac{1}{2}$ - $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in breadth, petiole about 1.5 lines long. Leaves cuneate, blunt or sometimes very slightly convex at the apex, with entire margins, which are hardly recurved, and tend to be folded inwards, venation rather prominent on the upper surface, which is almost glabrous, the under surface being covered with felt-like greyish hairs, opposite, stipules filamentous; about 1 line long.

Racemes axillary, rachis 1.5-2.5 inches covered with minute greyish hairs, pedicels distinct, hairy, under 1 line in length. Braets and bracteoles deciduous.

Flowers small, calyx rather thickly pubescent, the 2 upper lobes united a little higher up than the others, 1.5-2 lines long. Vexillum less than twice as long as the calyx, and a little longer than the alae or carina, about 2 lines in breadth.

Stamens free, ovary densely covered with white wooly hairs, stipes $\frac{3}{4}$ -1 line in length.

The plant belongs to the Series II. (Racemosae) of Bentham.

It seems to be nearest to *G. polystachyum*, Meissner. It is easily distinguished externally from that species by the leaves not being undulate and the racemes not sessile.

HIBBERTIA MILLARI, F. M. Bailey. (Dilleniaceae).

This Queensland plant is distinguished from *Hibbertia angustifolia*, Benth. (*Hibbertia Benthami*, F.v.M.) (*Hemistemma angustifolia*, R.Br.), as being "of more robust habit, with fewer and larger flowers in the spike, and without the prominent rusty-red midrib of the leaf of that species." An original specimen of R. Brown's is quite as robust, and the red midrib is quite as prominent in one of Bailey's specimens as in some of *H. angustifolia*. If the description of the latter were amended so as to read "leaves with a more or less prominent rusty-red midrib, flowers in clusters of 1 to 5 (instead of 2 to 5), sepals about 4 lines long (instead of 3 lines)," this would include the present plant and avoid the necessity for the creation of a new species or variety.

The plant given in the Recording Census of the Victorian Flora as *H. angustifolia* should be *H. procumbens*, D.C., the *H. Benthami* of F. v. Mueller reverting to the name of *H. angustifolia*, Benth.

HIBISCUS TRIONUM, L. (Malvaceae). "Bladder Hibiscus."

Coode Island, J. R. Tovey and C. French Jr., Oct., 1908.

Only previously recorded as a naturalised alien from the North-Western district.

LEPTOSPERMUM SCOPARIUM, Forst., var. ROTUNDIFOLIA,
Maiden and Betche. (Myrtaceae).

(Proceedings of the Linnean Society of New South Wales, 1900, Vol. XXV., page 101.)

The authors were doubtful as to whether this plant belonged to *L. flavescens* or *L. scoparium*. It is undoubtedly nearest to the var. *grandiflorum* (*L. grandiflorum*, Lodd) of *L. flavescens*, and specimens of the same plant were labelled *L. grandiflorum*,

Lodd, *var. rotundifolia* by Mueller. It is questionable whether this variety is not worthy of specific rank (larger flowers, broader leaves, usually larger fruits). It certainly includes several subforms of which Mueller's and Maiden and Betche's variety is one, and with it might be included some broad-leaved forms of *L. scoparium*, which have distinct pungent points. The distinction between the three species would not be any more artificial than that already existing between *L. flavescens* and *L. scoparium*.

PRASOPHYLLUM BRACHYSTACHYUM, Lindl. (Orchidaceae).

Sub-Alpine Eucalypt forests. County Talbot, Victoria. F. M. Reader, 20/6/09, 4/7/09, and June, 1910.

The form of the lateral appendages in these specimens did not appear to tally with the description in Bentham's "Flora Australiensis," and it was only after examining the type specimen sent from the Herbarium at Kew, that we were able to discover the correct species.

For this reason, we make the following amendment to Bentham's description:—"lateral appendages of the column bifid or unequally 2 lobed, both lobes acuminate, outer being slightly larger and broader than the inner." New to Victoria, only previously recorded from Tasmania.

PRASOPHYLLUM DESPECTANS, Hook., f., *var. INTERMEDIA*,
Ewart and Rees, n. *var.*

Warrandyte, Upper Yarra, Victoria.

Sent by C. Walter, 9/8/96.

These specimens are very similar in structure to *P. despectans*, though they differ in appearance, drying a much lighter colour than the type specimen from which it also differs in size, being slightly larger. The main difference is in the form of the lateral appendages of the column, which are either unequally 2 dentate, the inner lobe being much smaller or entire with a small tooth-like projection along the inner margin.

PULTENAEA ADUNCA, Turcz. (Leguminosae).

Twenty-five miles North-West of Port Lincoln, South Australia, E. H. D. Griffith, 10/10/09, only previously recorded from West Australia.

The specimen has the leaf obtuse. It may also be hooked at the tip. Calyx, bracteoles, ovary, corolla agree with the type. The style is, however, not specially thick or hooked. This may be an error in Bentham's description.

TOLPIS UMBELLATA, Bert. (Compositae).

Geelong, Victoria, December, 1909, and February, 1910, H. B. Williamson.

This plant is close to *T. barbata*, Gaertn. It differs in having few or no stem leaves, oblong-linear instead of lanceolate leaves, shorter involucreal bracts and usually smaller and narrower ligulate corollas. The fruit and pappus are practically identical in both. In Moore's "Handbook to the Flora of New South Wales," page 425, *Tolpis barbata*, Gaertn. is recorded as an escape from cultivation. Three New South Wales specimens in the Herbarium, however (Berrima; Richmond, Wools; and Parramatta, L. Atkinson) all prove to be *T. umbellata*.

In Victoria, the plant is hardly common or well enough established to be considered a naturalised alien as yet.

VERONICA SALICIFOLIA x V. SPECIOSA (V. ANDERSONII, Hort.)
(Scrophulariaceae).

P. R. St. John, Hanging Rock, Woodend, Victoria, Feb., 1910.

This hybrid, often grown in gardens under the name of *V. Andersonii*, was found growing apparently wild, but has evidently been planted accidentally or purposefully, and can therefore only be classed as a garden escape.

EXPLANATION OF PLATES XXII-XXIV.

PLATE XXI.—*Atriplex pterocarpa*, Ewart and Rees.

Fig. 1. Branch bearing axillary inflorescences.

„ 2.—Fruiting branch.

